



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

John J. Grabrick

Examiner:

Cassius A. Elston, Jr.

Group Art Unit:

Filing Date:

Serial No.:

Attorney Docket No.:

MINMAT.P02

Title of Invention:

System and Method for Web-Based Development and

Exploitation of Intellectual Property

Seattle, Washington 98109

October 12, 2000

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of Cassius A. Elston, Jr. and John 1. J. Gabrick entitled:

System and Method for Web-Based Development and Exploitation of Intellectual Property

- Papers enclosed which are required for filing date under 37 CFR 1.53(b):
 - **5** Pages of specification
 - **?** Pages of claims
 - / Page of Abstract
 - **≥9** Sheets of drawings
- 3. Declaration/Power of Attorney and Small Entity Statements are enclosed at this time.
- The inventorship for all the claims in this application is the same. 4.
- 5. The application is in English and no translation is required.
- 6. The filing fee is enclosed at this time by our check for \$355.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE (37 C.F.R. § 1.10)

I hereby certify that this correspondence, together with all papers and fees listed as attached or enclosed, are being deposited on the date indicated herein with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service Express Mail #EL609827118US with sufficient postage, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D C 20231.

Address all future communications to:

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P02-APPL TRN

Respectfully submitted,

PATRICK MICHAEL DWYER

Reg. No. 32,411

Attorney for Applicant

This transmittal ends with this page.

Date: 10/11/00 Time: 11:48:32 AM

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EL609827118US PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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John J. Gabrick

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System and Method for Web-Based Development

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October 12, 2000

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

VERTHIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CHAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(c)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office under 35 USC § 41(a) and (b) with regard to the invention entitled

System and Method for Web-Based Development and Exploitation of Intellectual Property

the specification of which is filed herewith./was filed on by United States Post Office Express Mail #EL609827118US.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Date /0/12/2000

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Date 10-13-00

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Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR WEB-BASED DEVELOPMENT AND EXPLOITATION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

TECHNICAL FIELD

The invention relates to the field of IP development and exploitation; more particularly, it relates to system and method for web based development and exploitation of IP.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Many believe that this is the dawn of an Idea Age, where human creativity in the form of intellectual capital exceeds tangible assets in value. Sensible people everywhere desire to inspire and promote new ideas and new innovation, within schools, within corporations, and around the world. However not every environment fosters creativity, and in fewer is creativity recognized and achievement rewarded.

Recently there have been proposals to bring the power of the Internet to the problem of matching up innovation with developers having the objective and the resources to develop and exploit the innovation. It does not appear however that any of the proposals go beyond a kind of primitive dating service paradigm.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

A system for web based development and exploitation of IP, with an innovator attraction module, a developer attraction module, a registration module, and a match module is disclosed. The registration module is adapted to accept and store dated related to an innovator and the innovator's innovation in an innovation database, and the match module is adapted to match a registered innovation and innovator with a developer having stated requirements and resources for development.

A method of web based development and exploitation of IP with the following steps is disclosed:

a. attracting a plurality of innovators, each having at least one innovation;

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- b. attracting at least one developer, the developer having stated requirements and verifiable resources for development of IP;
- c. registering innovation data related to an innovation in a database on a storage medium connected to an information network;
- d. registering developer data related to the developer's stated requirements and verifiable resources for development of IP in a database on a storage medium connected to the information network;
- e. making innovation data available to a developer and developer data available to at least one innovator.

A number of different kinds of users are contemplated for the system and methods disclosed. Users may be innovators or developers; users may also belong to the general public, or specific demographic segment of the public such as youth under 18, or seniors over 55.

In preferred embodiments of the invention a web site is contemplated for housing the user interface aspects of the modules disclosed as part of the system, and for effecting the steps of the disclosed methods. This web site, or a plurality of such sites, are anticipated to be owned and/or operated by a variety of interested parties. For example a company develops such a site to foster and encourage and track and reward innovation amongst its own employees and contractors; or an industry segment jointly effects such a site to encourage innovation within the segment; or a public body such as local, state or federal government, or agencies or departments of such bodies, or institutions of such bodies (libraries and universities) effects an innovation site such as that disclosed. Special interest groups such as environmentalists, global health or ecological concerns, or more local community concerns will also sponsor or operate such sites. Any given site may be an intranet and relatively closed to access by general public users; or it may be an extranet, or it may be fully open to the entire internet, or anywhere in between, limited only by its owners to effectuate its particular purposes.

Innovators can be attracted to such a site for a number of reasons and in a number of ways. Some desire to be validated in an evaluation and/or reward process; others wish to learn more about their craft of innovation and about how to more effectively and profitably exploit the fruits of their creativity; still others wish to see and perhaps compare their innovations with the innovations of others, and all come to be encouraged. The preferred site offers evaluation, prize and other financial reward opportunities, invited professional expertise in innovation and exploitation skills and resources, a database of other innovations, categorized into industries and fields of

creative endeavor, and the like, and by keyword, and such other indicia as will be appreciated by those skilled in the art. But especially, the preferred site offers encouragement to all users who visit.

Developers (which is to say all those individuals and companies that bring commitment and resources to the task of perfecting, marketing and otherwise exploiting IP to mutual profit and global benefit) can also be attracted to such a site for a number of reasons and in a number of ways. Some will be attracted to a pool of raw innovation ('raw' in the sense that, depending on the origin and sponsorship of the particular site of course, most innovators will typically not be pre-tied to a research institution or corporate research apparatus - except in sites run by just such organizations, but as to those innovators, they are typically not pre-tied to any outside interests); others to the intrinsic and extrinsic of sponsorship, desiring to build goodwill in the community, especially in Community Corner and Kids Corner type sites or subsites, as well as to the more tangible benefits of branding and brand identification to the innovator pool and other users and visitors to the site; others will be attracted by the opportunity to run infomercial and other marketing on the site, and still others will be eager to have a finger on a grass roots technology pulse.

The preferred site offers the pool of raw innovation and eager innovators; it provides a variety of opportunities for highly visible sponsorship, from banner ads to contest prizes; it provides a platform for infomercialization that is a true win/win by educating users as it also markets to them; and the pulse of innovation available by searches of the site database will provide valuable background to other data more usually watched by technology development executives.

The site provides a ready vehicle and means to get ideas registered and transformed into searchable and trackable data. Ideas and innovations and their related data can preferably be tracked both before and after any match ups with developers, and innovation data updates and developer resources and match outcome updates can be tracked as well. All innovator users have the option of specifying levels of permission for the dissemination and/or sharing of their innovation data. Recurrent innovator input is encouraged, as is recurrent follow up by developers with their innovator prospects, generating in preferred embodiments a kind of interactive and iterative feedback between the develop and innovator, all to the positive in further developing the innovation and bringing it to successful exploitation. This extra- or post-match interaction is preferably tracked as well, and all data tracked is preferably stored in a database for retrieval and analysis.

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Throughout the disclosure, where single databases are referred to, or multiple or connected databases are referred to, it is intended that each shall optionally have the meaning of the other, so that one database may be the equivalent of several others and a network of databases may be the equivalent, for disclosure purposes, of a single database. All matches referred to in the disclosure may be understood to refer to one to one matches, or one to many, or many to one, or many to many, as makes best sense in any particular embodiment.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a flowchart of a preferred embodiment.

Figure 2 is a table of contents for a preferred website.

Figure 3 is a home page for a preferred website.

Figure 4 is a Contest page for a preferred website.

Figure 5 is a Corporate Corner subsite Home for a preferred website.

Figure 6 is a Top Innovations page for a preferred website.

Figure 7 is an Industry Hubs page for a preferred website.

Figure 8 is Semiconductor subpage for a preferred website.

Figure 9 is a Licensing Hubs page for a preferred website.

Figure 10 is an Idea Submission page for a preferred website.

Figure 11 is a Kids Center page for a preferred website.

Figure 12 is a Best Ideas subpage for a preferred website.

Figure 13 is a Bike Riders Club subpage for a preferred website.

Figure 14 is a submission wizard and drawing tool subpage for a preferred website.

Figure 15 is a Community page for a preferred website.

Figure 16 is a Life Sciences subpage for a preferred website.

Figure 17 is a Social Problems subpage for a preferred website.

Figure 18 is an Inventors page for a preferred website.

Figure 19 is a Strategic Resources subpage for a preferred website.

Figure 20 is a Site News and Updates page for a preferred website.

Figure 21 is a Database Search page for a preferred website.

Figure 22 is a Registration page for a preferred website.

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BEST MODE OF CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

In this disclosure, the drawings, containing as they do unusually large amounts of text compared to more conventional patent disclosures, constitute the preferred embodiment for carrying out the inventive intentions of this disclosure. It is presently believed that the means by which the various schemes herein disclosed, such as programming of web pages, back end databases, networking, internet programming, and the like are all well within the knowledge of those skilled in the computer and internet programming arts, and as such are not required to be recited in this disclosure.

In addition, with regard to systems and components above referred to, but not otherwise specified or described in detail herein, the workings and specifications of such systems and components and the manner in which they may be made or assembled or used, both cooperatively with each other and with the other elements of the invention described herein to effect the purposes herein disclosed, are all believed to be well within the knowledge of those skilled in the art. No concerted attempt to repeat here what is generally known to the artisan has therefore been made.

In compliance with the statute, this disclosure is in language more or less specific as to claimed features. It is to be understood, however, that the invention is not limited to the specific features shown, since the means and construction shown comprise preferred forms of putting the invention into effect. The invention is, therefore, claimed in any of its forms or modifications within the legitimate and valid scope of the appended claims, appropriately interpreted in accordance with the doctrine of equivalents.

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 1. A system for web based development and exploitation of IP, the system comprising:
- 5 a. an innovator attraction module;
 - b. a developer attraction module;
 - c. a registration module;
 - d. a match module;

whereby the registration module is adapted to accept and store dated related to an innovator and the innovator's innovation in an innovation database, and further whereby the match module is adapted to match a registered innovation and innovator with a developer having stated requirements and resources for development.

- 2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the database is operably stored for random retrieval on a storage medium.
- The system of Claim 1, further wherein updates and changes to innovation related data are also stored in the innovation database.
 - 4. The system of Claim 1, further wherein the match module is adapted to match one or more innovations with one or more developers.
 - 5. The system of Claim 1, further comprising a tracking module, whereby any status or outcome of any matching activity related to the innovation is made available to a user.
 - 6. The system of Claim 5, wherein any status or outcome of any matching activity related to the innovation is also operably stored in a tracking database for later retrieval by a user.
- The system of Claim 6, wherein status or outcome of matching activity is fed for storage to the innovation database.
 - 8. The system of Claim 7 wherein the innovation database and the tracking database are interoperably connected for data sharing.
- 9. The system of Claim 1, wherein at least one module resides on a computing device.
 - 10. The system of Claim 9, wherein at least one different module resides on a different computing device, and the two computing devices are interconnected for data communication over an information network.

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- 11. The system of Claim 10, wherein the information network is a global information network.
- 12. A method of web based development and exploitation of IP, the method comprising the following steps:
 - a. attracting a plurality of innovators, each having at least one innovation;
 - b. attracting at least one developer, the developer having stated requirements and verifiable resources for development of IP;
 - c. registering innovation data related to an innovation in a database on a storage medium connected to an information network;
- d. registering developer data related to the developer's stated requirements and verifiable resources for development of IP in a database on a storage medium connected to the information network;
 - e. making innovation data available to a developer and developer data available to at least one innovator.
- 15 13. The system of Claim 12, further comprising the step:
 - f: registering any match up of an innovation with a developer in a database on a storage medium connected to the information network.
 - 14. The system of Claim 13, further comprising the step:
 - g: tracking any match ups and any match up outcomes in a database on a storage medium connected to the information network.
 - 15. The system of Claim 12, further comprising the step:
 - f: tracking any innovation data updates or changes in a database on a storage medium connected to the information network.
 - 16. The system of Claim 12, further comprising the step:
- f: tracking any developer data updates or changes in a database on a storage medium connected to the information network.

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A system for web based development and exploitation of IP, with an innovator attraction module, a developer attraction module, a registration module, and a match module. The registration module is adapted to accept and store dated related to an innovator and the innovator's innovation in an innovation database, and the match module is adapted to match a registered innovation and innovator with a developer having stated requirements and resources for development.

A method of web based development and exploitation of IP with the following steps:

- a. attracting a plurality of innovators, each having at least one innovation;
- b. attracting at least one developer, the developer having stated requirements and verifiable resources for development of IP;
- c. registering innovation data related to an innovation in a database on a storage medium connected to an information network;
- d. registering developer data related to the developer's stated requirements and verifiable resources for development of IP in a database on a storage medium connected to the information network;
- e. making innovation data available to a developer and developer data available to at least one innovator.

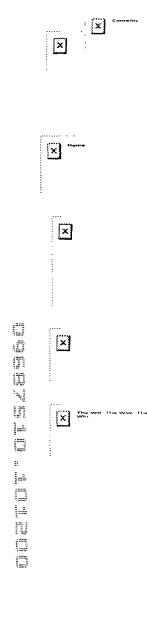
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users; for optimal release off-site, through out Internet

FIGURE /

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IINFo/Education)
-GAMES
- Links to Museums, Journals etc/
CHAT-International-Brainstorming)
wo other youth
Register en idea for prizes
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Link to Paze Donor's site for Donor info to youth on
related technology
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promoting globel responsibility in Leveloping technology (links back to Industry Hubs, Top
Innovations)
Special Faxes on Like Science Developments
spend focus on technology susceptible solutions to major social issues
10 major social issues

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Offered access to an Inventors' Corner Optional marketing of First Time Inventors' service package and/or direction to PTO side Into/Advice from techology exploitation professionals Access to strategic and business levelopment resources; success stories for this site Ofered News: Site updates, press releases, site coverage be media, product announcements, links to technology news Site database search



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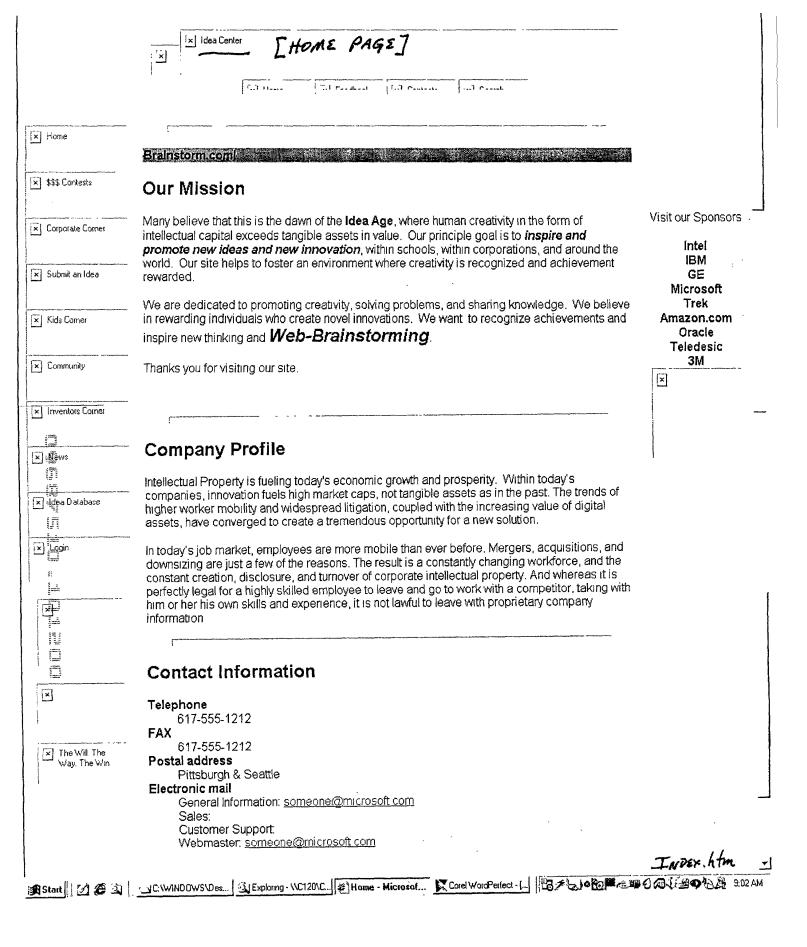
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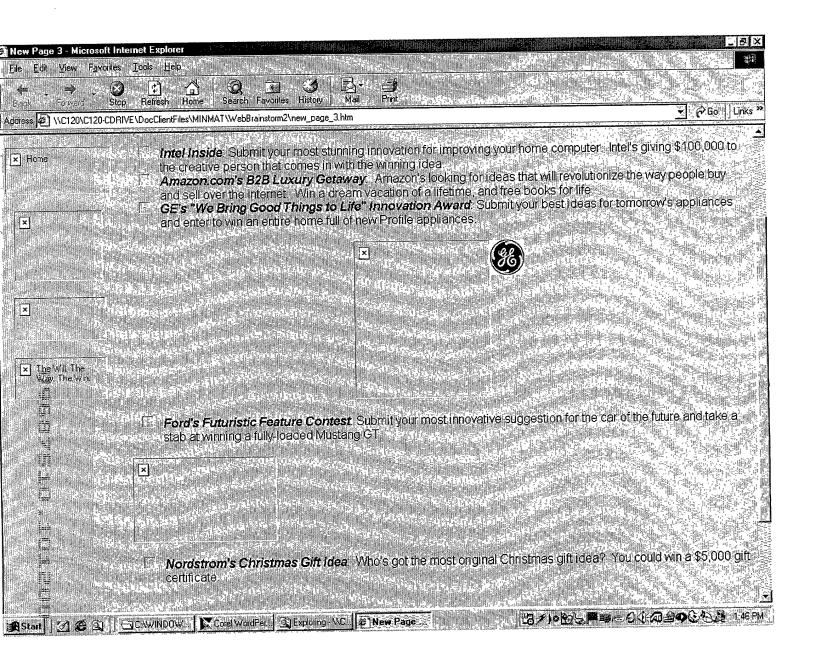
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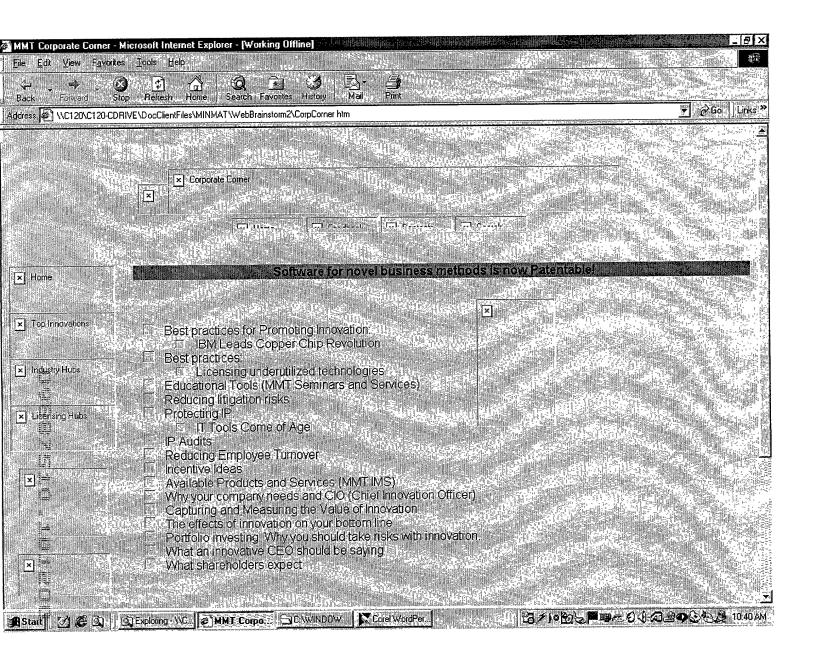
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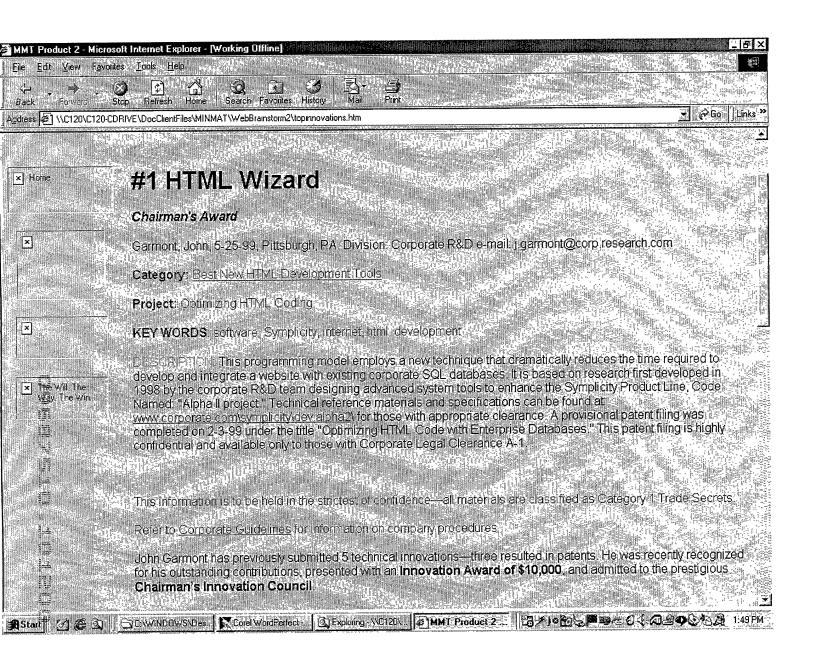
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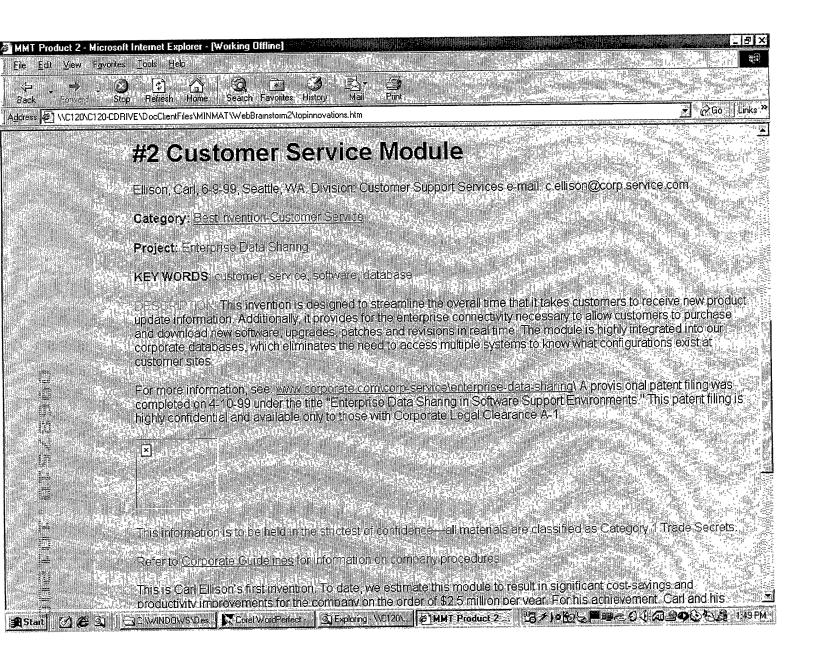


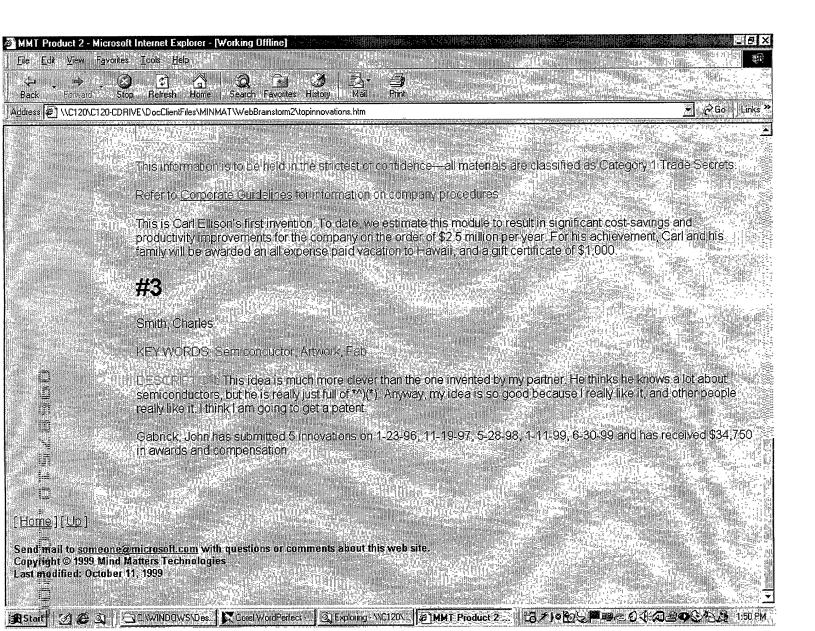


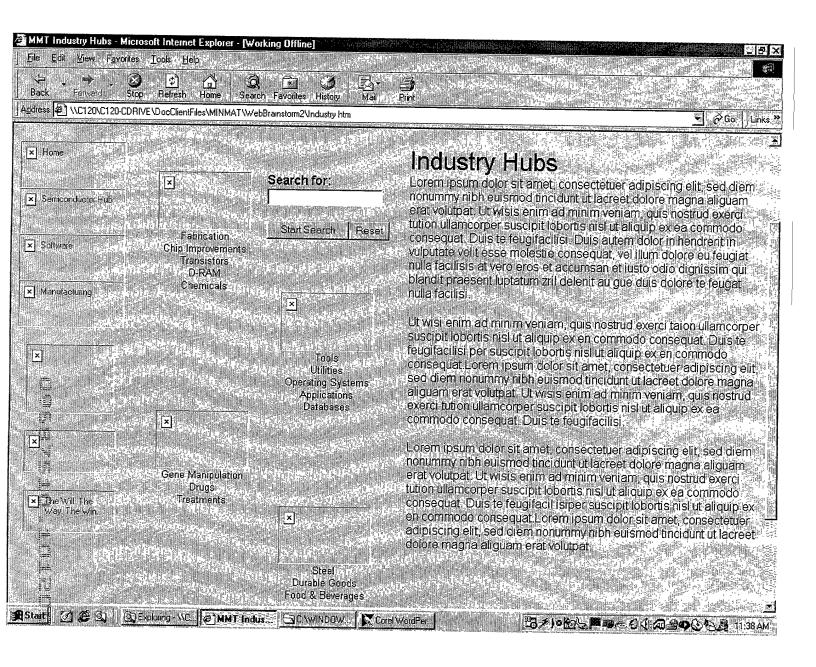


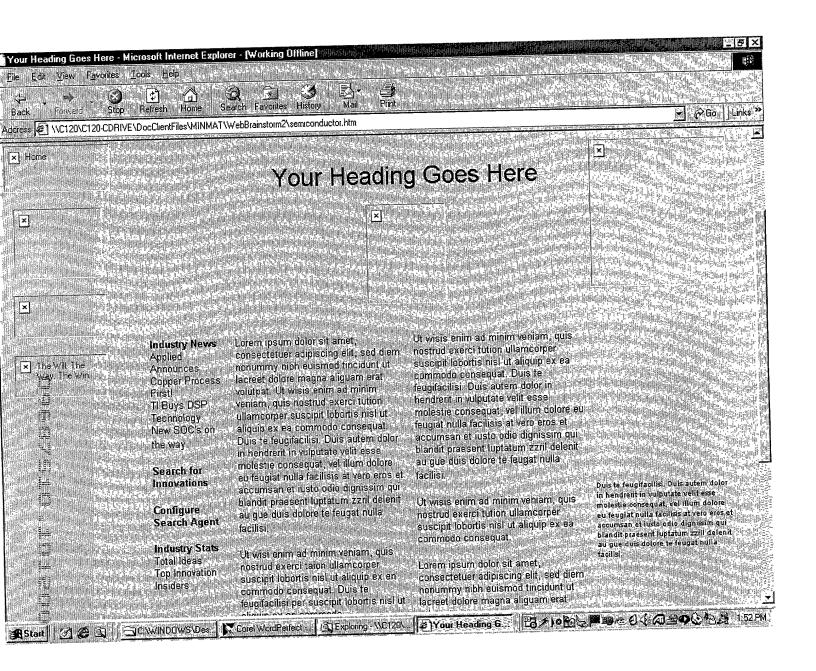
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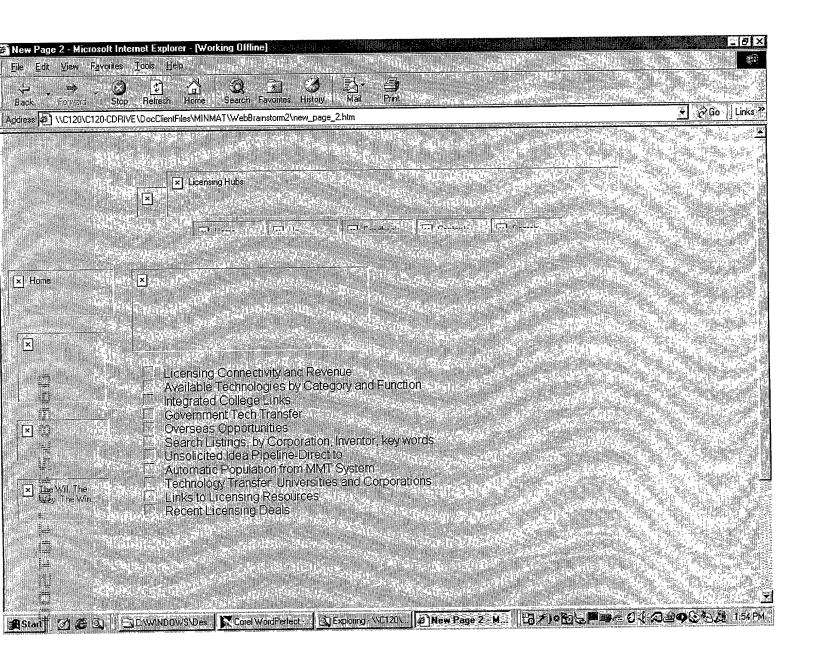


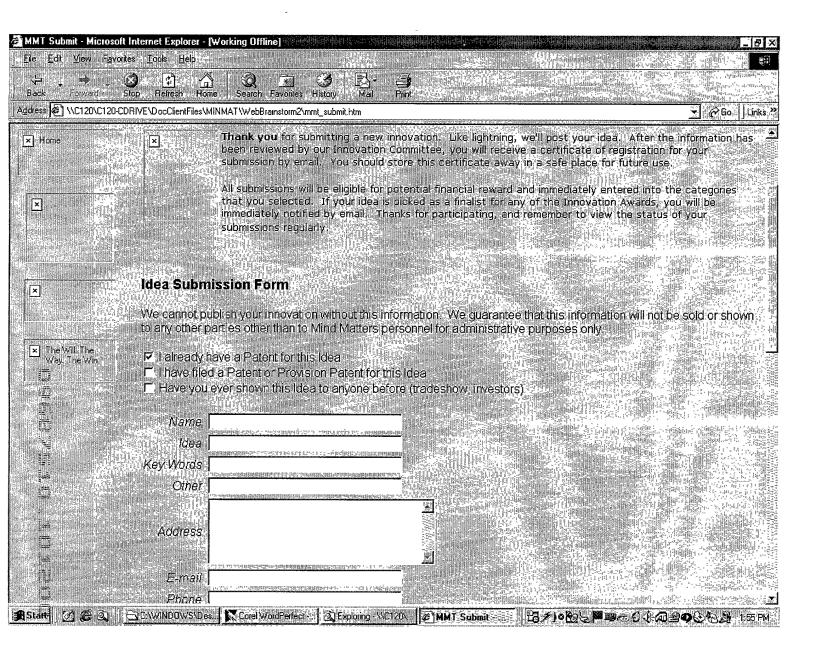


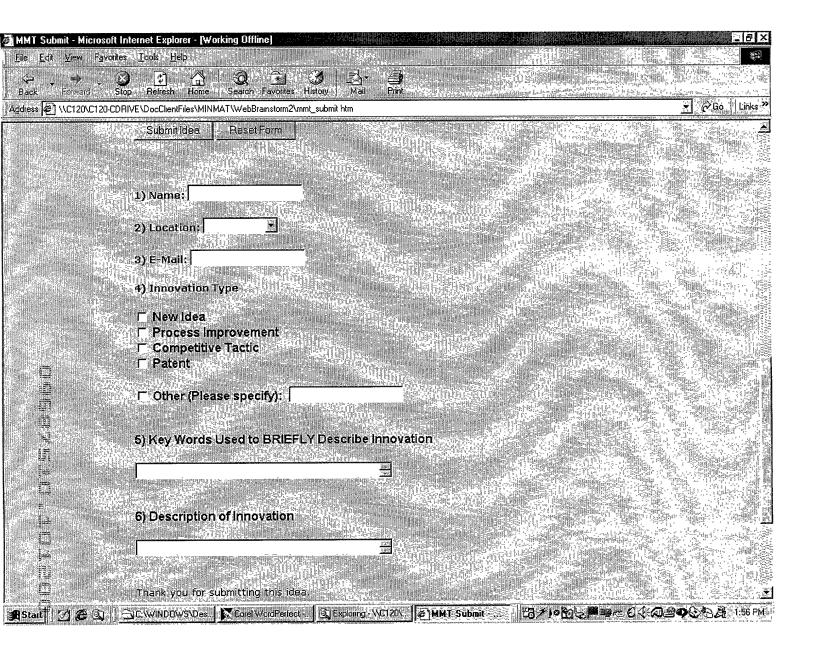


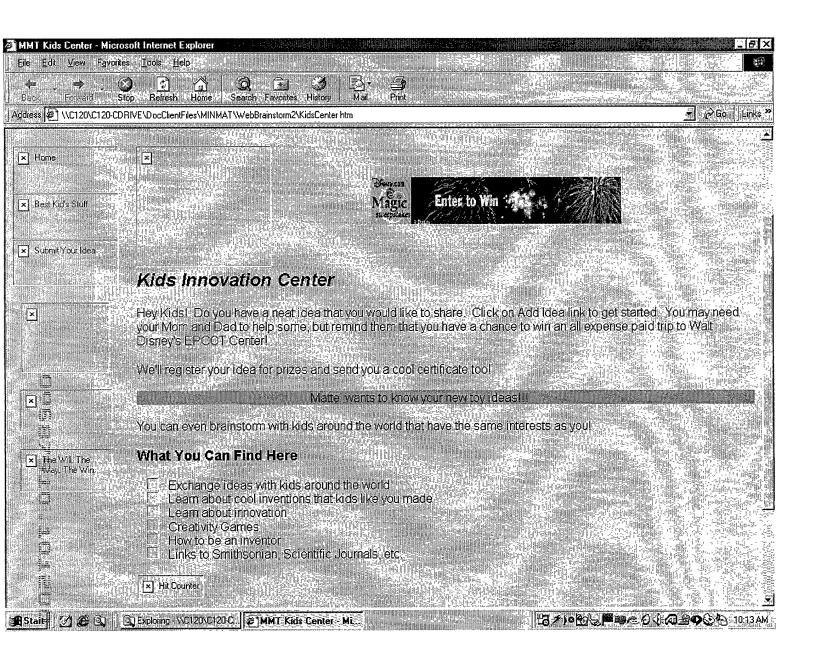


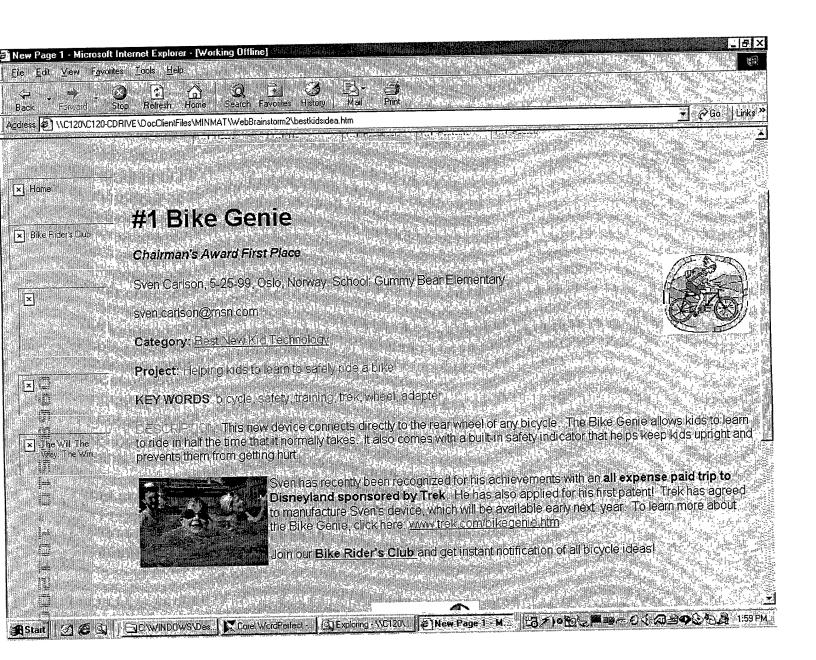




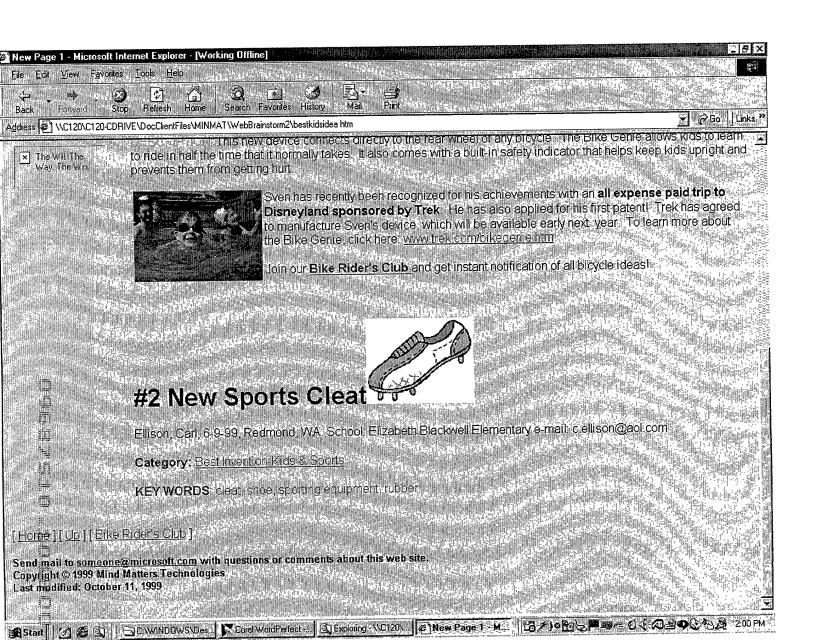


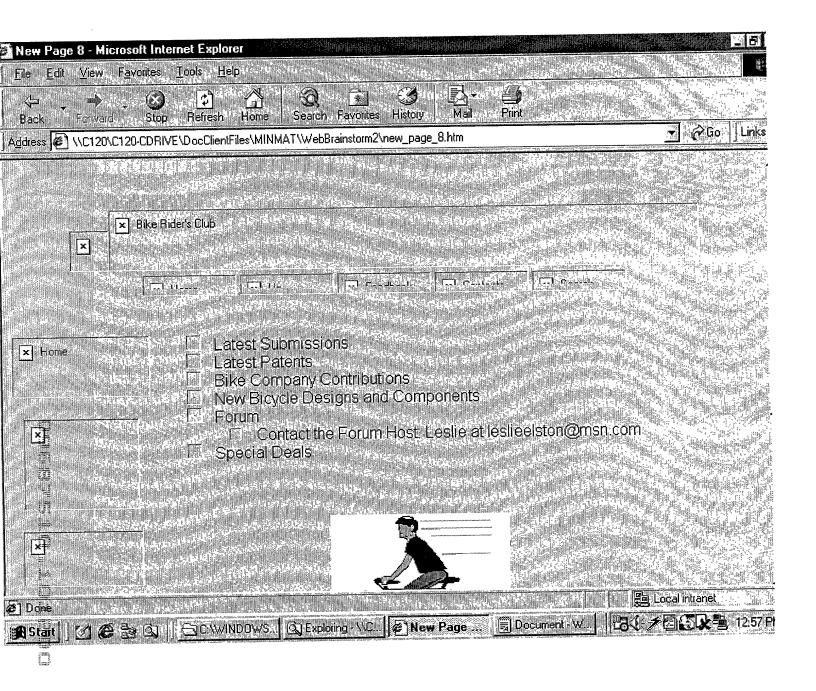




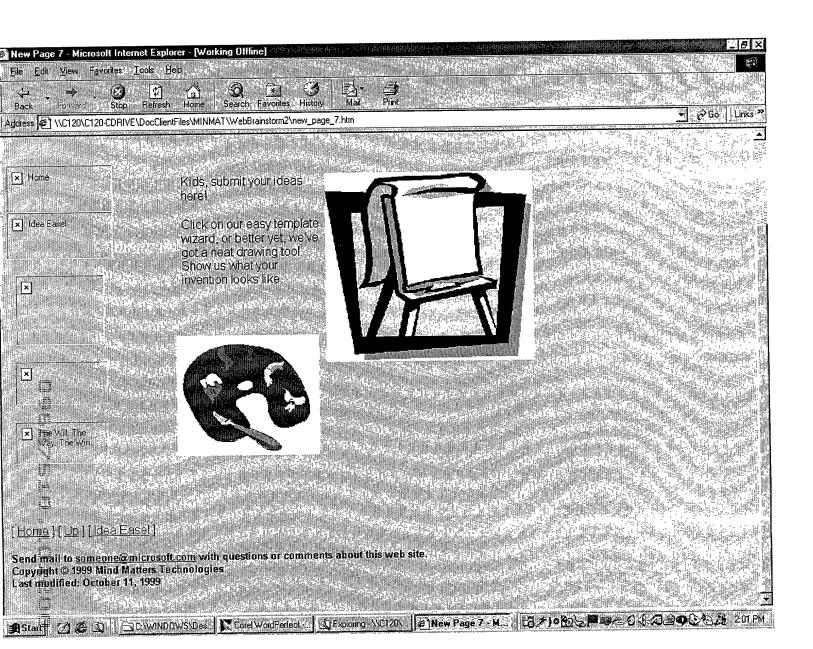


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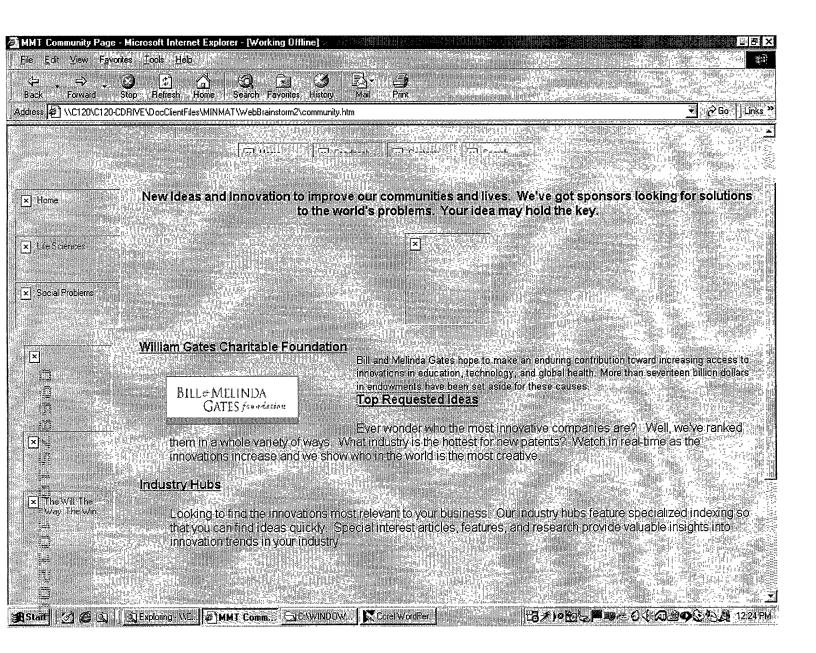




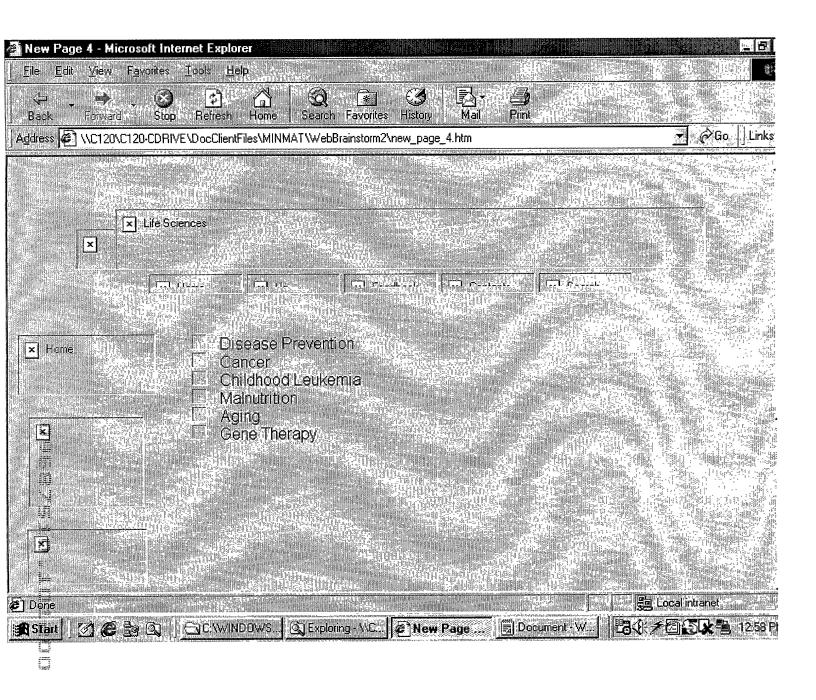
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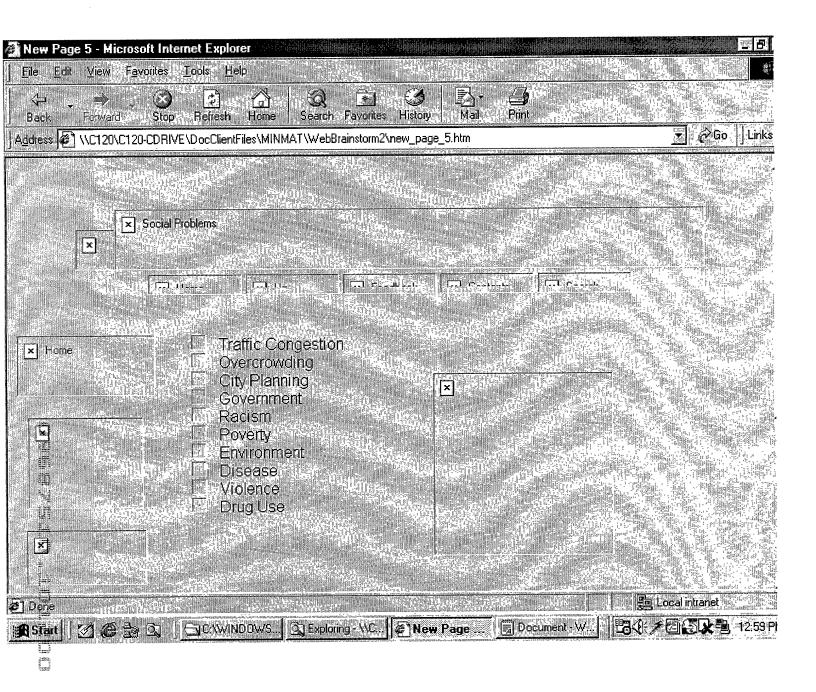
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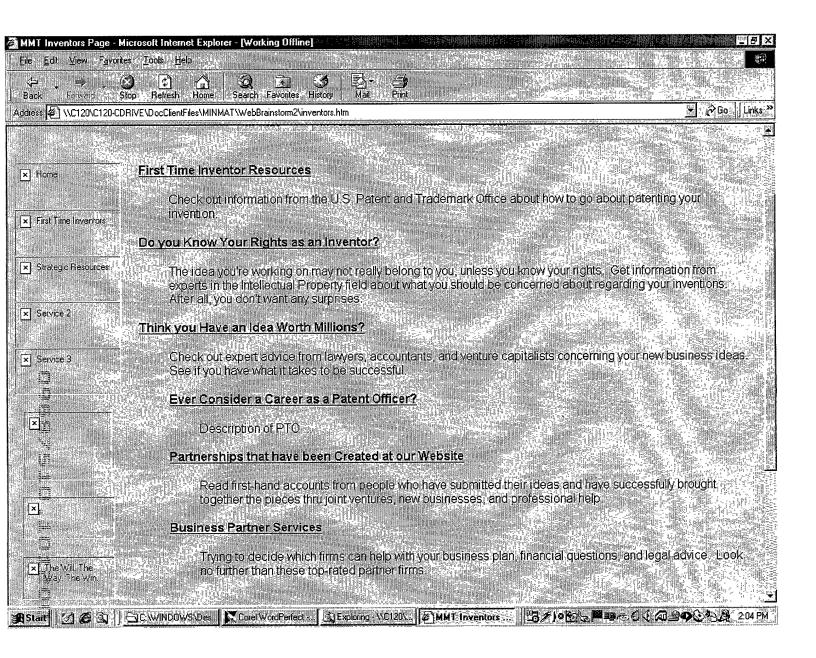
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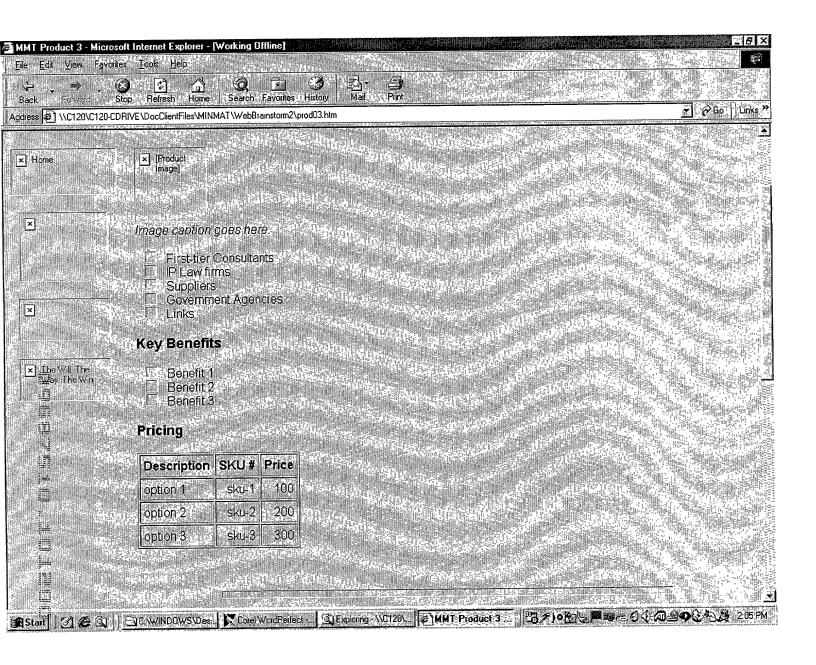


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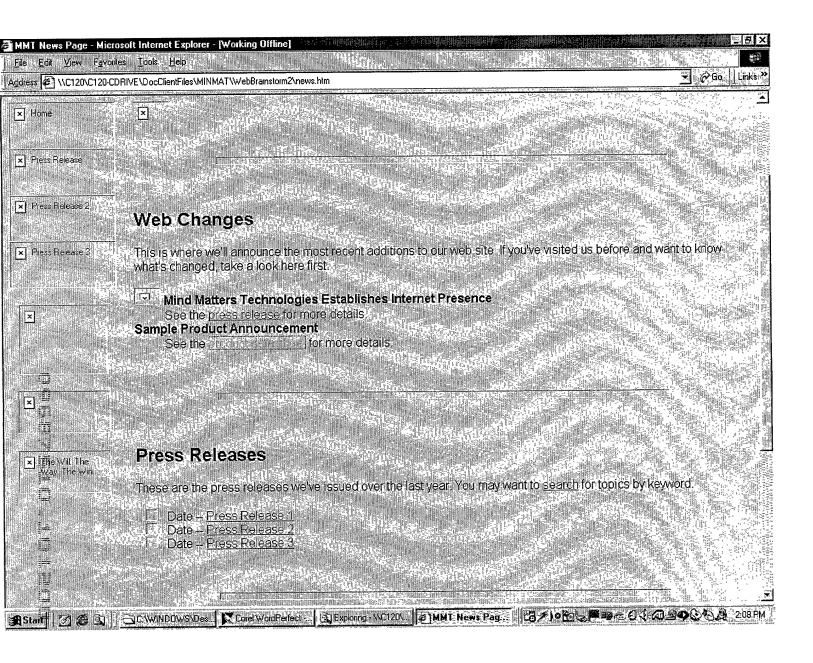


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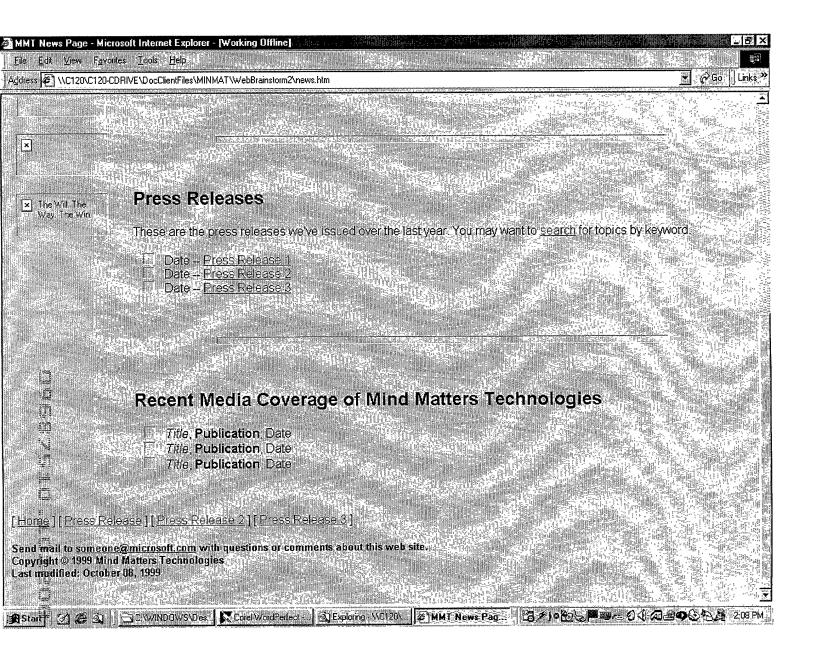


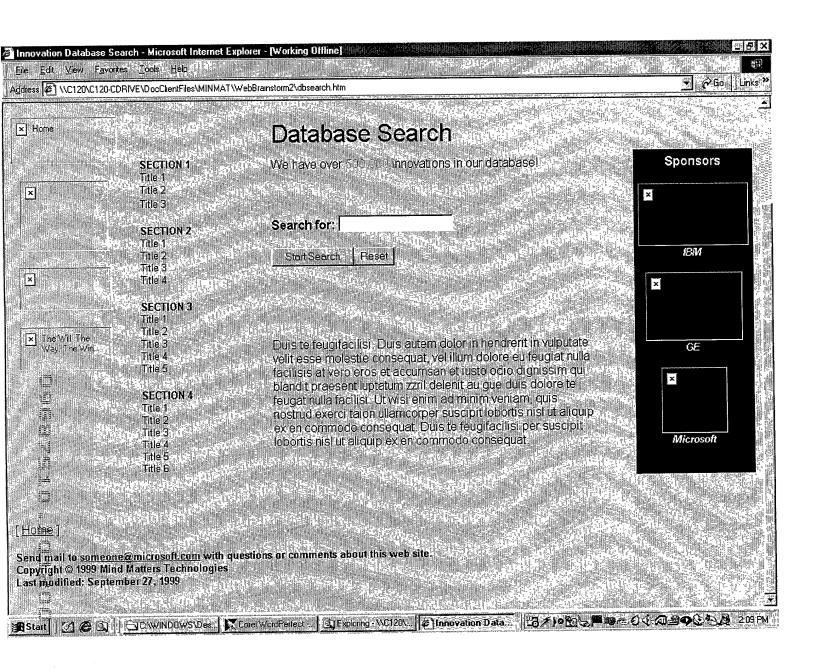


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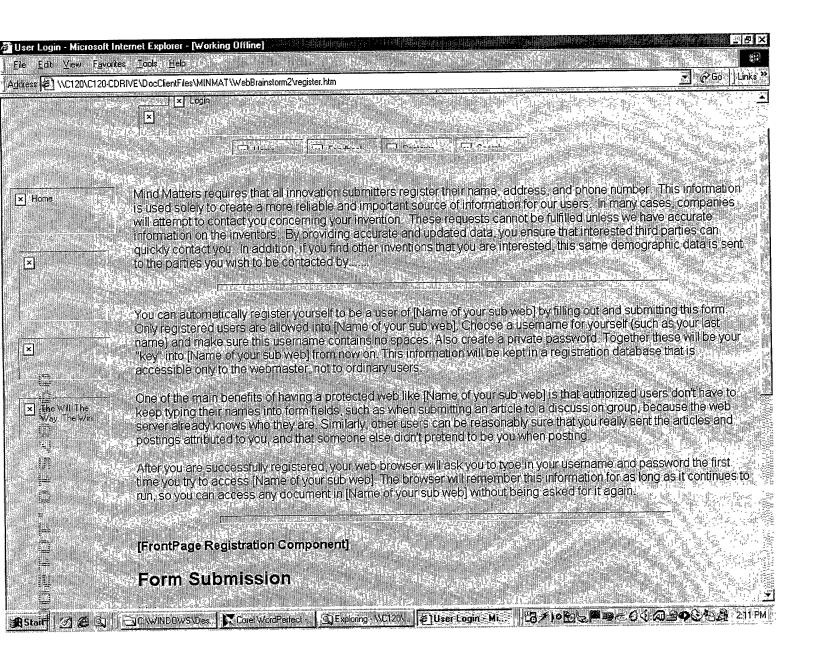


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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): John J. Gabrick Cassius A. Elston, Jr. Examiner:

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filing Date:

Attorney Docket No.: MINMAT.P02

Title of Invention:

System and Method for Web-Based Development and

Exploitation of Intellectual Property

Seattle, Washington 98109

October 12, 2000

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

This declaration is for an original application.

My residence, post office address and officenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first, and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

System and Method for Web-Hased Development and Exploitation of Intellectual Property

the specification of which is filed herewith by United States Post Office Express Mail #EL609827118US.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above; and I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of the application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56(a).

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

PATRICK MICHAEL DWYER, Reg No. 32,411

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

DIRECT ALL TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

Patrick Michael Dwyer (206) 343-7074

Patrick M. Dwyer PC 1818 Westlake Avenue N, Suitc 114 Scattle, WA 98109

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From: Patrick Dwyer 208 343-7085 To John J. Gabrick

Date: 10/11/00 Time: 11.48:32 AM

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I hereby claim the benefit under 35 USC § 120 of the application listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 USC § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the filing date of this application.

Provisional Application # 60/159,129 filed 10/12/99.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

John J. Galdrick	Date 10/12/2000
Residence and mailing address:	824 White Oak Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15228
Citizenship:	USA
	Date
Cassius A. Elston, Jr.	
Residence and mailing address:	2737 226th Ave. NF, Redmond, WA 98053
Citizenshin:	USA

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 USC § 120 of the application listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 USC § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the filing date of this application.

Provisional Application # 60/159,129 filed 10/12/99.

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John J. Gabrick	Date
Residence and mailing address;	824 White Oak Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15228
Citizenship:	USA
Cassius A. Elston, Jr.	Date 10-13-00
Residence and mailing address:	2737 226th Ave. NE, Redmond, WA 98053
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